

The Sifting of Simon (Luke 22:31-32)

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The Sifting of Simon (Luke 22:31-32)

I am by trade a mechanical engineer what that means is that I have an almost irresistible temptation to take anything apart to see how it works. When I was a kid, my mother had a flour sifter that when the handle would mechanically cause the flour to be agitated. I played with that thing and squiggled it back and forth and saw how those springs and gears all worked in that sifter. You may not be an engineer here tonight but I want you to take a look at a different kind of sift all together. Every one of us could find ourselves in Peter's position and we all want to know the reasons why the sift happens and the things to remember in the middle and on the other side of the sift.

I. The Sift of Simon - Simon Simon sounds like God's trying to get Simon's attention. This is in that upper room where Simon's all over about Jesus. Wash

me all over Lord, vs 33 I'll die. Uth's Sift Song

A. The Inquiry of Satan - vs 31 The Lord giving an indication of what's happening in heavenly places. Very similar to Job 1:6-11. It indicates that if there is any sifting to be going on by Satan there has to be permission. Jesus is warning Peter that inquiries are being made. The sift is coming. Is Satan inquiring of God ^{sifters} ~~yes~~?

B. The Content of the Situation - This sifting is a word picture of what was done to wheat. Wheat thrown in air, beat + shake to remove the chaff off the cereal of wheat. The word sift is rattle, to violently shake. vs 32. This sifting is about Peter's faith. Satan: clanging his hell and his faith will flutter away like ¹chaff in wind. And if

C. The Initiation of the Sift - The gates of Peter's life were wide open for a good sifting. vs 33 "I am ready". Our own self confidence will open wide the gates for God to allow a good sift. You'll be bumping along telling everybody a good Christian you are, I can handle this situation, I can handle my kids, ^{marriage} too.

II The Support of the Saviour
Boy we would have all been in a mess if Christ would have stopped at verse 31. But I want to kick it into another

1) ...left the gate wide open for the sift, thank God the Lord Jesus is interceding at the right hand of the father for me. Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

2) ...when their sift comes there is no intercession through Christ and they are blown to the wind. Remember: John 17:9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me, for they are thine. Their faith in statues, candles, water, and wafers is not anchored to the intercession of Christ. My faith is easily sifted and faith on my own would put me in hell. But my faith tried to Christ's intercession is enough to see me through the sift and place me on the streets of Gold!

- 1) ...and if your faith was left up to you, you better believe that when the sift came you phony plastic faith would flutter off in the breeze, but as we will see in a moment it's not up to us.
- 2) ...marriage, job and God's looking around saying "Where is the sift!" Peter left the door wide open for a sift to overtake him.

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gear, I want give the devil a headache by...

A. The Intercession of Saviour - VS 32a

I love the fact that so many of you pray for me and you tell me you are praying for me. But their ain't nothing as strengthening in this world better than knowing that Christ, the perfect son of God is interested in my behalf. Even when in my carnality and confidence I have left the gate

B. The direction of the Support - The

next phrase shows us to where this intercession is directed "faith fail not" Remember, Satan wants that faith to be blown away like chaff in wind, Chaff is blown because it has no substance, there is no weight to it, like a lot of people's false professions, and when there's a sift comes there is

C. The Preparation of the Servant - Why the sift at all. VS 62

after the sift which was the denial of Peter, we find the confident Peter running into the night bitterly weeping. Aww! world tell you, you shouldn't break the confidence! But this Bible tells us if we are ever going to be used of God we've got to be broken. That gun can't be loaded till it's broken. Sift to the point of breaking.

III The Strengthening of the Saint

It never ceases to amaze me how God can take the Devil's sifting, and shake us at ourselves, to shipwreck our faith

and turn it around use it for our good too

A. The restoration of Simon - 324
converted - here although it can mean
salvation through repentance, it can also
just mean turn, changed, recovered or
restored. Jesus is saying, the sift is
coming but there is life after the
sift. There is restoration ahead. Bro
Brown! God saw pentecost before Simon
ever saw the Sift! A disciple that sunk
so low as to curse people that accused him
of being with Christ restored and used by
God to save 300. The restoration of Simon is a

B. The Warning to the Saints - If you've
been through the Sift, then one of the
best things you can do to strengthen the
brethren is warn them of the sift. I
believe that's why 1 Peter 5: 8-9 in the
Peters Epistles. I remember a young preach
bro of mine preached a powerful message
one night, brought victory over devil
I pulled him aside, warned him of the
target on his back, the sift is ahead!
The sift happened, God turned it for
good, and strengthens brethren with it today

IV Closing

The Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5:1-48)

The Sermon on the Mount

A. The Sermon on the Mount

B. The Sermon on the Mount

C. The Sermon on the Mount

D. The Sermon on the Mount

E. The Sermon on the Mount

F. The Sermon on the Mount

G. The Sermon on the Mount

H. The Sermon on the Mount

I. The Sermon on the Mount

- 1) 1 Peter 5:8-9 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith...
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